



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

Robert F. McDonnell
Governor

May 13, 2010

Colonel Mike Morrow, Commander
U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Lee
1100 Lee Avenue
Fort Lee, Virginia 23801-1720

Dear Colonel Morrow:

I am proud to proclaim May to be Military Appreciation Month in the Commonwealth of Virginia, and ask that you share with your service members and staff the gratitude and appreciation I offer on behalf of the entire state.

Virginia is home to more than 150,000 active military and civilian defense personnel in addition to nearly 36,000 members of the Reserve or National Guard. We also have more than 830,000 veterans who have made Virginia home after completing their service. We're proud of these men and women who are our neighbors, our friends and our family. We are also glad to be home to dozens of military installations, from the Defense Department's headquarters to the "Crossroads of the Marine Corps," the Air Force's Air Combat Command, the Army's Sustainment Center of Excellence, and the most powerful Navy base in the world.

I know I speak for all Virginians when I say thank you for all that you do, and for the sacrifices you make daily in support of our freedom.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert F. McDonnell".

Robert F. McDonnell

RFM/tls
Attachment



CERTIFICATE of RECOGNITION

By virtue of the authority vested by the Constitution in the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, there is hereby officially recognized:

MILITARY APPRECIATION MONTH

WHEREAS, since the birth of our nation, Virginians have had a proud history of service in the United States armed forces in both times of peace and times of war, expertly displayed this year through operations in Iraq, Afghanistan, Haiti and elsewhere around the world; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth has installations representing all branches of service - Navy, Army, Air Force, Marine Corps and Coast Guard - including some of the most significant units, missions and commands of each; and

WHEREAS, nearly 200,000 Virginians are currently active duty, reserve component or civilian federal defense workers employed at installations throughout the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, major research, manufacturing, testing and maintenance facilities for equipment, ships, ammunition and advanced technologies join the workforce base in increasing Virginia's importance to national defense; and

WHEREAS, defense activities have brought hundreds of thousands of family members to our communities and schools, and have resulted in more than 830,000 veterans choosing to stay in Virginia after their service; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Virginia wish to recognize, honor, and show appreciation for all service members, past and present, and their families, and to set aside the month of May to pay tribute to the sacrifices and service of the intrepid men and women of our armed forces;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Robert F. McDonnell, do hereby recognize May 2010 as Military Appreciation Month in the COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.




Governor


Secretary of the Commonwealth